

Message Text

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42

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 /133 W
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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1957

INFO ALL OECD CAPS 067

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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ACTION STR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MTN, ETRD, GATT

SUBJ: SECTORS GROUP MEETING, OCT 12, 1976

1. SUMMARY. MAJOR EVENT OF HALF-DAY SECTORS MEETING WAS HALF-HOUR BREAKDOWN IN SOUND SYSTEM. CANADA STATED THAT IT WILL DETAIL ITS SECTOR PROPOSAL IN BILATERAL AND PURI-LATERAL DISCUSSION; THE U.S. REAFFIRMED ITS INTENTION TO TABLE A PROPOSAL FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN THE STEEL SECTOR; AND THE GROUP ACQUIESCED TO AN INDIAN REQUEST FOR ADDI-TIONAL DATA GATHERING BY THE GATT SECRETARIAT IN THE HANDICRAFT SECTOR. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A REFRESHINGLY SHORT STATEMENT, CANADA (MEL CLARK)
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REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF ITS SECTOR PROPOSAL FOR RESOURCE-

BASED INDUSTRIES, INDICATING THAT THE CANADIANS WOULD ELABORATE THEIR PROPOSAL IN MORE DETAIL IN BILATERAL AND PLURILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS OVER THE COMING WEEKS. EC, AUSTRIA, NORDICS AND SWISS NOTED UNCHANGED POSITIONS WITH REGARD TO SECTOR NEGOTIATIONS AND ALONG WITH U.S., INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADA, WHILE JAPAN (TERADA) TOOK A WAIT AND SEE ATTITUDE, STATING THAT IT WOULD CONSIDER BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

3. U.S. (MCNAMARA) REPEATED ITS INTENTION TO TABLE A PROPOSAL FOR A SECTOR NEGOTIATION IN STEEL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING OF THE SECTORS GROUP. ONLY JAPAN RESPONDED, REPEATING STRONG APPREHENSION IT HAD EXPRESSED WHEN U.S. FIRST MENTIONED STEEL SECTOR NEGOTIATIONS AT LAST MEETING OF THE GROUP.

4. INDIA (HEMRAJANI) MADE DETAILED COMMENTS ON SECRETARIAT FEASIBILITY STUDY IN THE HANDICRAFT SECTOR, EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE THAT INDIA AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ATTACH TO THIS SECTOR. INDIA THEN PROPOSED THAT THE SECRETARIAT UNDERTAKE TO COMPILE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON THE HANDICRAFT SECTOR, DRAWING UPON THE WORK OF OTHER BODIES (CCC, UNCTAD) AS NECESSARY:

(1) DRAW UP LIST OF ITEMS IN PRESENT BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS COVERING HANDICRAFTS, NOTING TARIFFS AND NTBS IN MAJOR DEVELOPED MARKETS;

(2) USING LIST OF HANDICRAFT ITEMS COMPILED BY UNCTAD IN 1975, IDENTIFY TARIFF ITEMS AND NTBS;

(3) EXAMINE THE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO HANDICRAFT SCHEMES AND GSP IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO DETERMINE WHERE HARMONIZATION OF REGULATIONS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

THE GROUP ACQUIESCED IN FURTHER DATA COMPILATION BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE SECRETARIAT IN THE HANDICRAFT SECTOR, ALTHOUGH JAPAN AND EC POINTED OUT THE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN DEFINITION OF HANDICRAFTS AND IN THE GATHERING OF DATA.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING LEFT OPEN. CANADA DID NOT LINK DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF GROUP TO DATE OF MEETING OF TARIFFS GROUP AS IN THE PAST, BUT RATHER TO PROGRESS

ON A TARIFF-CUTTING FORMULA.

6. CHAIRMAN SUMMING-UP TO FOLLOW VIA SEPTTEL. WALKER

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